Date/Time:

Comments:

Before Judge:

#### **OFFENSES AND PENALTY SHEET**

Defendant Edith Nelson (a/k/a Edith Honrubia Nelson, a/k/a Edith Grutas)

Count One: Title 18, United States Code, Section [Conspiracy to Commit Bank/Wire Fraud]

Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense under this chapter shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

Counts Two Through Thirty-One: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 [Bank Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment

Counts Thirty-Two Through Sixty-One: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 [Wire Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$ 100 special assessment

Count Sixty-Two: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) [Money Laundering Conspiracy]

The maximum penalty for a § 1956(h) conspiracy is the same as the penalty for the offense that is the object of the conspiracy, *i.e.*, 20 years for a § 1956 offense, and 10 years for a § 1957 offense as follows:

<u>Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) [Money Laundering]</u>

20 imprisonment, three years supervised release, \$500,000 fine or twice the value of the property involved in the transaction, whichever is greater, and \$100 special assessment.

<u>Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 [Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000</u>

10 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$100 special assessment, and \$250,000 fine (or not more than twice the amount of the criminally derived property involved in the transaction).

Count Sixty-Three Through One Hundred Thirteen: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957
[Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000]

See penalties above

Count One Hundred Fourteen: Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201
[Income Tax Evasion]

5 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$100,000 fine, and \$100 special assessment.

Counts One Hundred Fifteen Through One Hundred Twenty-Six: Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) [Harboring of Illegal Aliens]

5 years imprisonment, three years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$ 100 special assessment

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Document 1	Filed 07	7/17/2008	Page 4 of
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DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE	TO A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT
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Min	DEFENDANT - U.S
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	01100 4110
	DEFENDANT
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Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)	Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding.  1)   If not detained give date any prior
IRS-CI and ICE	summons was served on above charges
person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court,	— │
give name of court	
	3) Is on Bail or Release from (show District)
this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District	
	IS IN CUSTODY
	4) On this charge
this is a reprosecution of charges previously dismissed	5)  On another conviction
which were dismissed on motion SHOW	Federal State
01:	6) Awaiting trial on other charges
U.S. ATTORNEY DEFENSE	If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution
this prosecution relates to a	Yes I if "Yes"
pending case involving this same	Has detainer Light give date
defendant MAGISTRAT	
prior proceedings or appearance(s)	DATE OF Month/Day/Year ARREST
before U.S. Magistrate regarding this defendant were recorded under	Or if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not
Name and Office of Person	DATE TRANSFERRED Month/Day/Year
Furnishing Information on this form JOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO	
x U.S. Attorney ☐ Other U.S. Agend	cy L
Name of Assistant U.S.	This report amends AO 257 previously submitted
Attorney (if assigned)  DEBORAH R. DOUGLAS, AL	<del></del>
PROCESS: ADDITIONAL IN	IFORMATION OR COMMENTS
SUMMONS NO PROCESS* X WARRANT	Bail Amount: NO BAIL
If Summons, complete following:	
Arraignment Initial Appearance	* Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment
Defendant Address:	
	Date/Time: Before Judge:
Comments:	

#### OFFENSES AND PENALTY SHEET

Defendant Ronald Nelson

Count One: Title 18, United States Code, Section [Conspiracy to Commit Bank/Wire Fraud]

Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense under this chapter shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344(1) & (2) [Bank Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$ 100 special assessment

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 [Wire Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment

Count One Hundred Fourteen: Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201 [Income Tax Evasion]

5 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$100,000 fine, and \$100 special assessment.

Counts One Hundred Fifteen Through One Hundred Twenty-Six: Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) [Harboring of Illegal Aliens]

5 years imprisonment, three years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$ 100 special assessment

Comments:

DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE T	O A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT
BY: COMPLAINT INFORMATION X INDICTMENT	Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Location
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PROCEEDING	IS NOT IN CUSTODY  Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding.
Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)	1) 🔀 If not detained give date any prior
IRS-CI and ICE	summons was served on above charges
person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court,	2) Is a Fugitive
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this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District	
	IS IN CUSTODY
this is a representation of	4) On this charge
this is a reprosecution of  charges previously dismissed  SHOW	5) On another conviction
which were dismissed on motion of:	
U.S. ATTORNEY DEFENSE	6) Awaiting trial on other charges  If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution
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this prosecution relates to a pending case involving this same	Has detainer Yes If "Yes" give date
defendant MAGISTRATI  CASE NO.  ■ CASE NO.	Been filed? No filed
prior proceedings or appearance(s)	DATE OF Month/Day/Year ARREST
before U.S. Magistrate regarding this defendant were recorded under	Or if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not
Name and Office of Person	DATE TRANSFERRED Month/Day/Year
Furnishing Information on this formJOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO	
☑ U.S. Attorney ☐ Other U.S. Agency	
Name of Assistant U.S. Attorney (if assigned) DEBORAH R. DOUGLAS, AU	This report amends AO 257 previously submitted
ADDITIONAL INF	FORMATION OR COMMENTS
PROCESS:	Rail Amount: NO RAII
SUMMONS NO PROCESS* WARRANT  If Summons, complete following:	Bail Amount: NO BAIL
Arraignment Initial Appearance	* Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment
Defendant Address:	
	Date/Time: Before Judge:

#### OFFENSES AND PENALTY SHEET

Defendant Nelda Asuncion

Count One: Title 18, United States Code, Section [Conspiracy to Commit Bank/Wire Fraud]

Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense under this chapter shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

Counts Two Through Twenty-Three: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 [Bank Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment

Counts Thirty-Two Through Fifty-Seven: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 [Wire Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment

Count Sixty-Two: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) [Money Laundering Conspiracy]

The maximum penalty for a § 1956(h) conspiracy is the same as the penalty for the offense that is the object of the conspiracy, i.e., 20 years for a § 1956 offense, and 10 years for a § 1957 offense as follows:.

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) [Money Laundering]

20 imprisonment, three years supervised release, \$500,000 fine or twice the value of the property involved in the transaction, whichever is greater, and \$100 special assessment.

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 [Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000

10 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$100 special assessment, and \$250,000 fine (or not more than twice the amount of the criminally derived property involved in the transaction).

Count Sixty-Three Through Ninety-Eight: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 [Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000

See penalties above

Defendant Address:

Comments:

DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE TO A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DI BY: ☐ COMPLAINT ☐ INFORMATION ☒ INDICTMENT Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistration NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFOR □ SUPERSEDING -OFFENSE CHARGED -**OAKLAND DIVISION** Petty SEE ATTACHMENT Minor **DEFENDANT - U.S** Misde-**CRISTETA LAGAREJOS** meanor Felony DISTRICT COURT NUMBER PENALTY: SEE ATTACHMENT DEFENDANT IS NOT IN CUSTODY **PROCEEDING** Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding. Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any) 1) X If not detained give date any prior summons was served on above charges **IRS-CI and ICE** person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, 2) Is a Fugitive give name of court 3) Is on Bail or Release from (show District) this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District IS IN CUSTODY 4) On this charge this is a reprosecution of charges previously dismissed 5) On another conviction SHOW Federal State which were dismissed on motion DOCKET NO. 6) Awaiting trial on other charges U.S. ATTORNEY ☐ DEFENSE If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution this prosecution relates to a If "Yes" Has detainer | Yes pending case involving this same give date been filed? **MAGISTRATE** defendant filed CASE NO. Month/Day/Year DATE OF prior proceedings or appearance(s) ARREST before U.S. Magistrate regarding this defendant were recorded under Or... if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not Month/Day/Year DATE TRANSFERRED Name and Office of Person Furnishing Information on this form JOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO TO U.S. CUSTODY 🗓 U.S. Attorney 📋 Other U.S. Agency This report amends AO 257 previously submitted Name of Assistant U.S. DEBORAH R. DOUGLAS, AUSA Attorney (if assigned) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS -PROCESS: SUMMONS NO PROCESS\* WARRANT Bail Amount: NO BAIL If Summons, complete following: \* Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or Arraignment Initial Appearance warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment

Date/Time:

#### OFFENSES AND PENALTY SHEET

Defendant Cristeta Lagarejos

<u>Count One: Title 18, United States Code, Section [Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud/Wire Fraud]</u>

Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense under this chapter shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

Counts Twenty-Four Through Thirty-One: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 [Bank Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment

Counts Fifty-Eight Through Sixty-One: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 [Wire Fraud]

30 years imprisonment, five years supervised release, \$250,000 fine, \$ 100 special assessment

Count Sixty-Two: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) [Money Laundering Conspiracy]

The maximum penalty for a § 1956(h) conspiracy is the same as the penalty for the offense that is the object of the conspiracy, *i.e.*, 20 years for a § 1956 offense, and 10 years for a § 1957 offense as follows:.

<u>Title 18, United States Code, Section</u> 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) [Money Laundering]

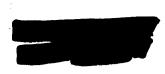
20 imprisonment, three years supervised release, \$500,000 fine or twice the value of the property involved in the transaction, whichever is greater, and \$100 special assessment.

<u>Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 [Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000</u>

10 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$100 special assessment, and \$250,000 fine (or not more than twice the amount of the criminally derived property involved in the transaction).

Count Ninety-Nine Through One Hundred Thirteen: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 [Money Laundering: Transactions Greater than \$10,000]

See penalties above



United States District Court

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**VENUE: OAKLAND** 

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

V.

0x08-477 0

EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), RONALD NELSON, NELDA ASUNCION, and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

DEFENDANT(S).

#### INDICTMENT

18 U.S.C.§ 1349 [Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud];
18 U.S.C.§ 1344 [Bank Fraud]; 18 U.S.C.§ 1349 [Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud]; 18 U.S.C.§ 1343 [Wire Fraud];
18 U.S.C.§ 1956(h) [Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering];
18 U.S.C.§ 1957(a) [Monetary Transactions Using Criminally Derived Property]; 26 U.S.C.§ 7201 [Income Tax Evasion];
18 U.S.C.§ 2 [Aiding & Abetting];
8 U.S.C.§ 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) [Harboring of Illegal Aliens]

Filed in open court this 17th day of

The 2008

Clerk

Bail, \$ No bail arrest warrant for each defendant,

The Grand Jury charges:

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At all times relevant to this indictment:

1. Defendants Edith Nelson and Ronald Nelson, a married couple ("the Nelsons"), owned and operated Placement Services, a referral service located at 1800 Oak Park Blvd., Suite C, Pleasant Hill, California, that placed elderly people into residential care home facilities. On or about August 21, 1998, the Department of Social Services, State of California, ordered the immediate



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exclusion of defendants Ronald and Edith Nelson (under her former name "Edith Grutas") from all facilities licensed by the Department based upon various violations of licensing requirements, including deficient care of elderly residents. Despite the exclusion order, the Nelsons have continued to operate numerous Residential Care Home Facilities for the Elderly ("RCFE") and other properties. in the identities of others used to purchase the properties ("straw buyers").

- 2. Defendant Nelda Asuncion is a real estate agent and co-owner of Realty World Pacific West, a real estate business at 1842 Colfax Street, Concord, California. Prior to defendant Nelda Asuncion's partner obtaining a broker's license for conducting mortgage business, Realty World Pacific West processed mortgages through Abacus Financial, a mortgage broker business owned by another individual.
- 3. Defendant Cristeta Lagarejos is a real estate agent and broker, and the owner of Realty World - The Legacy/Legacy Financing ("Legacy Financing"), a real estate and mortgage broker business at 91 Gregory Lane, Suite 1, Pleasant Hill, California.

#### A. INTRODUCTION

- 4. Beginning no later than on or about December 23, 2002, and continuing until on or about January 8, 2007, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants, Edith Nelson, Ronald Nelson, Nelda Asuncion, Cristeta Lagarejos, and others did knowingly devise and execute a material scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions, many of which were federally insured and others which were not, and to obtain moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, and other property owned by, and under the custody and control of, the financial institution by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.
- 5. Beginning on or about December 23, 2002, through on or about January 8, 2007, the defendants secured through straw buyers at least 63 loans, totaling over \$20 million in loan proceeds, from financial institutions based on false and fraudulent representations. Of the 63 loans, Defendants Edith Nelson and Nelda Asuncion secured at least 51 loans from financial institutions, totaling over \$17 million in loan proceeds. Defendants Edith Nelson and Cristeta Lagarejos secured at least 12 loans, totaling over \$3 million in loan proceeds, from financial institutions.

Filed 07/17/2008

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- 6. Beginning on or about December 23, 2002 through on or about January 8, 2007, the defendants laundered the proceeds from specified unlawful activities, i.e., bank fraud and wire fraud, by causing transactions, totaling over \$20 million, to be disbursed from escrow accounts opened by straw buyers. Defendants Edith Nelson and Nelda Asuncion caused financial transactions totaling over \$17 million to be disbursed from 27 escrow accounts of straw buyers. Defendants Edith Nelson and Cristeta Lagarejos caused financial transactions, totaling over \$3 million, to be disbursed from six escrow accounts of straw buyers.
- 7. Some of the financial institutions from which mortgages were fraudulently obtained were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"). Other financial institutions from which mortgages were fraudulently obtained that were not FDIC insured wired the mortgage proceeds to the title companies through the Federal Reserve Bank's Fedwire Funds Transfer System (Fedwire). All of the proceeds (both FDIC and non-FDIC insured) were wired through Fedwire and transmitted to the Federal Reserve Bank's processing center in New Jersey prior to the proceeds being wired to the beneficiaries. As such, the wiring of loan proceeds via Fedwire to the title companies in California affected interstate commerce.

#### B. ROLES OF THE DEFENDANTS

- 8. The role of each defendant in the conspiracies is generally described as follows:
  - a. Defendant Edith Nelson: Placement Services

Defendant Edith Nelson's role included, but was not limited to, (a) recruiting straw buyers and RCFE buyers; (b) entering into agreements with straw buyers and RCFE buyers; (c) paying straw buyers for the use of their names to purchase RCFEs and other properties controlled by the Nelsons; (d) conspiring with Defendants Nelda Asuncion and Cristeta Lagarejos to prepare fraudulent loan applications and real estate documents under straw buyers and RCFE buyers; (e) verifying, and instructing her employees at Placement Services to verify, fraudulent information placed on the straw buyers' loan applications when lenders called to verify employment; (f) providing "show money" to at least one RCFE buyer to deposit into her bank account during the loan approval process to defraud lenders into believing that the RCFE buyer had additional assets; (g) instructing straw buyers to sign grant deeds transferring or adding defendant Edith Nelson's name to the title of the property as a "gift," and at times filing those grant deeds with Contra Costa County Records after escrow closed; (h) causing many straw buyers to open bank accounts which were then controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson, including deposits, withdrawals, and transfer of monies from those bank accounts to other bank accounts controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson; (i) at times, providing title companies with specific disbursement instructions for the proceeds from the sale of properties purchased by straw buyers; (j) receiving the proceeds of the property sales directly from the title companies or from the straw sellers whose bank accounts received the proceeds from the title companies; and (k) functioning as an employer and manager of the numerous RCFEs and other properties purchased by straw buyers, but controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson.

#### b. <u>Defendant Ronald Nelson: Placement Services</u>

Defendant Ronald Nelson's role included, but was not limited to: (a) recruiting at least one straw buyer to purchase a RCFE controlled by the Nelsons, soliciting the straw buyer to enter into an agreement with defendant Edith Nelson regarding the ownership and control of the RCFE, and composing, together with the straw buyer, the memorandum of understanding which was then signed by defendant Edith Nelson and the straw buyer; (b) reviewing the paperwork associated with another straw buyer's purchase of RCFEs controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson prior to the straw buyer's signing the paperwork; (c) attending a meeting with defendants Edith Nelson and Nelda Asuncion, and a RCFE buyer who was recruited by defendants Edith Nelson and Nelda Asuncion and whose loan applications were fraudulently prepared by defendant Nelda Asuncion, during which defendant Ronald Nelson participated in the decision on how the \$400,000 purchase price for the business of a RCFE controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson should be paid and disbursed by the RCFE buyer, which included the payment of two checks to defendant Ronald Nelson for \$116,000 and \$100,000; and (d) functioning as an employer, bookkeeper, check issuer, and performing other responsibilities associated with operating and controlling the numerous RCFEs and other properties purchased by straw buyers.

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#### c. <u>Defendant Nelda Asuncion: Realty World Pacific West</u>

Defendant Nelda Asuncion's role included, but was not limited to, (a) recruiting straw buyers; (b) preparing, and instructing her employee at Realty World Pacific West to prepare fraudulent loan applications and real estate documents in the names of straw buyers and RCFE buyers; (c) sending faxes, and instructing her employee at Realty World Pacific West to send faxes, to Placement Services with a summary of the employment information fraudulently placed on the straw buyers' loan applications so that Placement Services could falsely verify employment information to lenders called to verify employment; (d) processing, and instructing her employee at Realty World Pacific West to process loan packages before submitting them to financial institutions; (e) providing "show money" to at least one RCFE buyer to deposit into her bank account during the loan approval process to defraud lenders into believing that the RCFE buyer had additional assets; (f) providing instructions to title companies on how to disburse the proceeds from the sale of properties purchased by straw buyers; (g) receiving the proceeds of the property sales from the title companies or the straw sellers to whose bank accounts the proceeds were wired; and (h) receiving compensation in the form of commissions that were paid to Realty World Pacific West or Abacus Financial from the escrow accounts.

#### d. Defendant Cristeta Lagarejos: Legacy Financing

Defendant Cristeta Lagarejos's role included, but was not limited to: (a) recruiting straw buyers; (b) preparing fraudulent loan applications and real estate documents in the names of straw buyers; (c) processing loan packages and submitting them to financial institutions; (d) instructing straw buyers to remit the proceeds of the property sales, wired from the title companies, to defendant Edith Nelson; (e) receiving a disbursement from the escrow account of a straw buyer in the amount of \$41,200; and (f) receiving commissions that were paid to Legacy Financing from the escrow accounts.

COUNT ONE: (18 U.S.C. § 1349 - Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud and Wire Fraud)

- 9. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, paragraph eleven, and paragraphs fourteen, sixteen, eighteen, and twenty, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 10. Beginning no later than on or about December 23, 2002, and continuing until on or about January 8, 2007, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

# EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), RONALD NELSON, NELDA ASUNCION, and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

did knowingly conspire with each other, and with other persons both known and unknown to the grand jury, to knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, well knowing at the time that the pretenses, representations, and promises were false and fraudulent when made, and for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, and to transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communications in interstate commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely wire transfers, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 1344 (1) & (2).

#### C. MANNER AND MEANS

- 11. The objects, manner, and means of the defendants in carrying out the conspiracy included the following:
- a. The defendants fraudulently obtained mortgage proceeds from financial institutions through straw buyers to purchase RCFEs and other properties controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson.
- b. The defendants recruited straw buyers to purchase existing RCFEs under the control of defendants Ronald Nelson and Edith Nelson, or properties that would be converted into RCFEs.
- c. The defendants told the straw buyers that the properties would be purchased in their names and that the properties would be sold after approximately one year.

Filed 07/17/2008

The defendants purchased and sold the same properties using different straw

The defendants represented to the straw buyers that, during their titular

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ownership of the respective property, the defendants would pay for all of the expenses associated

buyers.

- f. The defendants paid the straw buyers \$5,000 or \$10,000 for each purchase and, at times, \$5,000 or \$10,000 when the properties were sold.
- The defendants failed to make timely mortgage payments, causing many of g. the properties to default or to be foreclosed.

with the property, including the mortgage payments, property taxes, and capital gains taxes.

- h. The defendants caused the mortgage loan applications to be prepared based upon fraudulent representations, including gross monthly income.
- The defendants caused the properties to be purchased with 100% financing under "stated income loans," in which lenders verify only employment information, assets and liabilities, and do not verify gross monthly income.
- The defendants determined the lender's acceptable debt to income ratio via j. a computer software program and then prepared the income portion of the loan application to meet that ratio, using income charts to see what income was reasonable for the particular profession.
- k. The defendants sent faxes to Placement Services with a summary of the employment information fraudulently placed on the loan applications, and then falsely corroborated the employment information placed on the loan applications when the lenders called to verify employment.
- At the direction of the defendants, the loan proceeds obtained by straw buyers 1. were wired or deposited into escrow accounts at the title companies under false and fraudulent pretenses for the purchase of the properties.
- At the direction of the defendants, the title companies disbursed proceeds from m. the escrow accounts to Edith Nelson or other individuals related to or associated with defendant Edith Nelson, including the straw sellers, who would then remit the gains from those sales to defendant Edith Nelson.

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The defendants recruited other individuals to purchase properties to convert n. into RCFEs or to purchase existing RCFEs. Defendant Nelda Asuncion or her employee, at the direction of Asuncion, prepared "stated income loan" applications for the RCFE buyers.

#### D. OVERT ACTS

- 12. During the course of the conspiracy, and to accomplish its objectives, the defendants and others committed the following overt acts, among others, in the Northern District of California, and elsewhere:
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2007, defendants Edith Nelson and a. Nelda Asuncion recruited straw buyers and RCFE buyers to purchase and refinance the following real estate properties:
  - 2180 La Orinda Place, Concord
  - 4919 Union Mine Road, Antioch
  - 2267 Shannon Lane, Walnut Creek
  - 2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon
  - 1586 Placer Drive, San Ramon
  - 330 El Divisadero Avenue, Walnut Creek
  - 121 Warwick Avenue, Walnut Creek
  - 1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord
  - 3546 Concord Boulevard, Concord
  - 1772 Geary Road, Walnut Creek (10)
  - 871 Brittany Lane, Concord (11)
  - 134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg (12)
  - 130 El Cerro Court, Danville (13)
  - 1116 Jaime Drive, Concord (14)
  - ((15)4124 Forestview Avenue, Concord
  - 2562 Venado Camino, Walnut Creek (16)
  - 667 Imperial Drive, Pacifica (17)
- From in or about 2004 through in or about 2007, defendants Edith Nelson and b. Cristeta Lagarejos recruited straw buyers to purchase and refinance the following real estate properties:
  - 1785 Thornwood Drive, Concord
  - 2180 La Orinda Place, Concord
  - 2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2007, defendant Edith Nelson represented to the straw buyers that she would pay all of the expenses associated with the property, including the mortgage payments, property taxes, and capital gains taxes.

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- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Edith Nelson paid d. the straw buyers \$5,000 or \$10,000 for each purchase and, at times, \$5,000 or \$10,000 when the properties were sold.
- e. From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Nelda Asuncion and her employee, at the direction of Asuncion, prepared loan applications for the straw buyers based on false and fraudulent representations as set forth above.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Nelda Asuncion . f. and her employee, at the direction of Asuncion, caused adjustable rate notes to be signed by the straw buyers promising to pay the loans.
- From in or about 2004 through in or about 2007, defendant Cristeta Lagarejos g. prepared loan applications for the straw buyers based on false and fraudulent representations.
- From in or about 2004 through in or about 2007, defendant Cristeta Lagarejos h. caused adjustable rate notes to be signed by the straw buyers promising to pay the loans.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Nelda Asuncion, or her employee at the direction of Asuncion, processed the loan packages and submitted them to federally insured financial institutions, such as Long Beach Mortgage/Washington Mutual Bank, World Savings Bank, Fremont Investment and Loan, and WMC Mortgage.
- Beginning in or about 2003 through 2006, defendant Nelda Asuncion, or her j. employee at the direction of Asuncion, processed loan packages and submitted them to nonfederally insured financial institutions, such as Fieldstone Mortgage, First NLC Financial, Countrywide Home Loans, The Loan Center, and First Magnus Financial.
- From in or about 2004 through in or about 2007, defendant Cristeta Lagarejos k. processed the loan packages and submitted them to federally insured financial institutions, such as WMC Mortgage and Lehman Brothers Bank.
- From in or about 2005 through in or about 2007, defendant Cristeta Lagarejos 1. processed the loan packages and submitted them to non-federally insured financial institutions, such as Finance America and PMC Bancorp.

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From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Nelda Asuncion, m. or her employee at the direction of Asuncion, sent faxes to Placement Services with a summary of the fraudulent employment information placed on the straw buyers' loan applications prepared by Realty World Pacific West allowing defendant Edith Nelson and her employees at Placement Services to falsely corroborate that information when the lenders called to verify employment.

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- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Edith Nelson, or n. her employees at Placement Services at the direction of defendant Nelson, corroborated to the lenders who called to verify the fraudulent employment information contained on the straw buyers' loan applications prepared by Realty World Pacific West.
- 0. From in or about 2002 through in or about 2007, defendant Edith Nelson verified to lenders the straw buyers' rental status and history. The straw buyers' residential information on the loan applications was at times listed as addresses associated with defendant Edith Nelson, who was fraudulently identified as the property manager or landlord.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendants Edith Nelson and p. Nelda Asuncion provided at least one RCFE buyer with "show money" to deposit into her bank account during the loan approval process to defraud lenders into believing that the RCFE buyer had additional assets.
- From in or about 2003 through in or about 2007, defendants Edith Nelson, q. Nelda Asuncion, and Cristeta Lagarejos caused the financial institutions to wire transfer the mortgage proceeds via the Federal Reserve Bank's Fedwire Funds Transfer System (Fedwire) to the title companies handling the escrows in California, thereby affecting interstate commerce.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Edith Nelson caused straw buyers to sign grant deeds transferring or adding Nelson's name to the title of the property as a "gift." Some of the grant deeds were filed with Contra Costa County Records after escrow closed.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2006, defendant Edith Nelson s. caused straw buyers to open bank accounts which were then controlled by defendants Edith and

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Ronald Nelson, including deposits, withdrawals, and transfer of monies from those bank accounts to other bank accounts controlled by the Nelsons.

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- From in or about 2003 through in or about 2005, defendants Edith Nelson and Nelda Asuncion directed title companies as to how the proceeds from the sale of properties should be disbursed, including the following:
- **(1)** On or before October 27, 2003, defendants Edith Nelson, Nelda Asuncion, or a co-conspirator directed a title company to wire transfer monies to Edith Nelson in the amount of \$91,594.14 and the rest of the proceeds to defendant Nelda Asuncion related to the sale of 871 Brittany Lane, Concord. This property was purchased by a RCFE buyer whose loan applications were fraudulently prepared by defendant Nelda Asuncion's employee at the direction of Asuncion.
- On or before June 10, 2004, defendant Edith Nelson or a co-conspirator (2) directed a title company to disburse \$57,412.88 related to the sale of 134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg, to Bank of Walnut Creek account no. 1361791, which was opened by defendant Edith Nelson and her aunt. This property was purchased by a straw buyer whose loan applications were fraudulently prepared by Nelda Asuncion's employee at the direction of Asuncion.
- On or before June 6, 2005, defendant Nelda Asuncion sent a fax dated June (3) 3, 2005 with instructions to wire transfer monies related to the sale of 134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg (purchased by a straw buyer) to defendant Edith Nelson's Bank of Walnut Creek account no. 1381938, which had been opened in the name of Fibercraft USA Inc. whose agent was defendant Ronald Nelson.
- On or about June 17, 2005, defendant Edith Nelson faxed a letter to the title **(4)** company related to the sale of the property located at 330 El Divisadero, Walnut Creek (purchased by a straw buyer) with instructions to wire the disbursement amount to Bank of Walnut Creek account no. 1361899, which had been opened by defendant Edith Nelson and another straw buyer.
- From in or about 2002 through in or about 2007, defendant Edith Nelson u. caused the straw sellers to provide defendant Nelson with the proceeds of the property sales that the title companies had wired into the straw seller's bank accounts.

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From in or about 2003 to in or about 2004, defendant Ronald Nelson (1) v. recruited a straw buyer to purchase the RCFE located at 121 Warwick Avenue, Walnut Creek (controlled by the Nelsons); (2) introduced the straw buyer to defendant Edith Nelson; (3) explained to the straw buyer that he (Ronald) and defendant Edith Nelson had difficulty with the state licensing authority in regards to obtaining the proper paperwork to operate a residential care home facility for the elderly, (4) invited the straw buyer to Placement Services and explained that he (Ronald) and defendant Edith Nelson owned care home facilities, intended to open additional facilities, and sought partnerships in these facilities; (5) met with the straw buyer, together with defendant Edith Nelson, and discussed how the business and property transactions would take place; (7) together with defendant Edith Nelson, decided the amount of money that the straw buyer should invest in the RCFE business and property at 121 Warwick Drive; (8) composed, together with the straw buyer, the wording of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the ownership and operation of the RCFE; (9) was present when defendant Edith Nelson and the straw buyer signed the Memorandum of Understanding dated January 22, 2004 which made the straw buyer a 50% partner in the business and property at 121 Warwick Drive; (10) set up JAK Limited Liability Corporation ("LLC") to operate the RCFE and added the straw buyer's name to the documents associated with the LLC; (11) requested that the straw buyer sign blank checks for the JAK LLC bank account at 121 Warwick Drive, which was opened in the names of the straw buyer and Edith Nelson's daughter (Ronald Nelson's step-daughter); (12) told the straw buyer that his step-daughter had signatory authority on the RCFE's bank account so that the Nelsons could protect their interests in the RCFE; and (13) reassured the straw buyer whenever he expressed any reservations about the foregoing arrangements.

- w. In or about August 2004, defendant Nelda Asuncion directed her employee to prepare prepared fraudulent loan applications for the straw buyer discussed in paragraph 12v above.
- On or about October 20, 2005, a defendant caused Sierra Shasta Investments x. LLC ("Sierra Shasta"), whose agent is defendant Ronald Nelson, to receive a check for \$125,400.58 (check no. 1749 dated October 20, 2005) from a straw seller who was wired proceeds in the amount of \$135,400.58 by a title company based upon the sale of the RCFE located at 2180 La Orinda Place, Concord, which was controlled by defendants Ronald and Edith Nelson.

- y. In or before June 2005, defendant Edith Nelson told at least one straw buyer that defendant Ronald Nelson was an accountant and that all of the paperwork associated with the straw buyer's purchase of the properties controlled by the defendants Ronald and Edith Nelson was carefully reviewed by defendant Ronald Nelson to ensure that the paperwork was correct before the straw buyer signed any papers. Defendant Edith Nelson further told the straw buyer that defendant Ronald Nelson was consulted on everything and he made sure that the entire operation was running smoothly.
- Nelda Asuncion met with a RCFE buyer who had refinanced her personal residence through defendant Nelda Asuncion and obtained \$400,000 to purchase an RCFE from the Nelsons. Defendant Nelda Asuncion prepared the RCFE buyer's loan application based on fraudulent information, such as gross monthly income. At the meeting on or about October 25, 2005, defendants Ronald Nelson, Edith Nelson, and Nelda Asuncion discussed how the \$400,000 purchase price for the business of an RCFE controlled by defendants Ronald and Edith Nelson (located at 2267 Shannon Lane, Walnut Creek) would be distributed. The defendants instructed the RCFE buyer to split the \$400,000 purchase price for the business into four checks as follows: check no. 2307 for \$116,000 payable to Ronald Nelson, check no. 2308 for \$100,000 payable to defendant Ronald Nelson, check no. 2306 for \$100,000 payable to defendant Nelda Asuncion, and check no. 2305 for \$84,000 payable to the co-owner of Realty World Pacific West (and defendant Nelda Asuncion's partner).
- aa. During the entire period of the conspiracy, defendant Edith Nelson functioned as an employer and manager of the numerous RCFEs and other properties purchased under straw buyers, but which the Nelsons controlled.
- bb. During the entire period of the conspiracy, defendant Ronald Nelson functioned as an employer, bookkeeper, check issuer, and performed other responsibilities associated with operating and controlling the numerous RCFEs and other properties purchased under straw buyers.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.

- 13. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, and paragraph eleven, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 14. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

#### EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and NELDA ASUNCION,

did knowingly devise and execute a scheme and artifice to defraud the federally insured financial institutions listed below and to obtain moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, and other property owned by, and under the custody and control of, the financial institutions, by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises:

Count	Close of Escrow Date	Property	Straw Buyer/ RCFE Buyers	FDIC Insured Financial Institution	Loan #	Loan Amount	Escrow Co. & Escrow #
2 .	12/23/02	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Rosalina B.	World Savings	0020034096	\$339,500	Placer Title 803-5842
3	12/23/02	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Rosalina B.	World Savings	0020034104	\$97,000	Placer Title 803-5842
4	3/20/03	4919 Union Mine Road, Antioch	Муга S.	Long Beach Mortgage	5227855	\$436,000	American Title (Ticor)
5	3/20/03	4919 Union Mine Road, Antioch	Myra S.	Long Beach Mortgage	5227863	\$109,000	American Title (Ticor) 43614
6	6/23/03	121 Warwick Ave., Walnut Creek	Guada- lupe V.	Long Beach Mortgage	5509476	\$527,960	Old Republic Title 011100140 5

	7	6/23/03	121 Warwick Ave., Walnut Creek	Guada- lupe V.	Long Beach Mortgage	5509484	\$131,990	Old Republic Title
		•						011100140 5
	8	10/16/03	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Steve P.	Long Beach Mortgage	5934419	\$391,600	Ticor Title Co.
								00028685
	9	10/16/03	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Steve P.	Long Beach Mortgage	5934435	\$97,900	Ticor Title Co.
			Concord					00028685
	10	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	WMC Mortgage, a GE Bank	10592499	\$416,000	Ticor Title Co.
				В.	OL Dunk			22514
	11	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	WMC Mortgage, a GE Bank	1059502	\$104,000	Ticor Title Co.
				Д.	OL Dalik			22514
	12	5/26/05	3546 Concord	Dennis D.	Long Beach	6471059	\$548,000	Ticor Title Co.
			Blvd., Concord		Mortgage (Washing- ton Mutual Bank)			85593-901
r	13	5/26/05	3546 Concord	Dennis D.	Long Beach	6471060	\$137,000	Ticor Title
			Blvd., Concord		Mortgage (Washing-			Co.
					ton Mutual Bank)			85593-901
	14	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive,	Shawna D.	Fremont Investment	7000150164	\$580,000	Ticor Title Co.
			Pittsburg		& Loan		:	86557
	15	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive,	Shawna D.	Fremont Investment	7000150244	\$145,000	Ticor Title Co.
			Pittsburg		& Loan			86557
	16	6/17/05	330 El Divisa- dero Ave.,	Steve P.	Fremont Investment & Loan	7000151064	\$720,000	Ticor Title Co.
			Walnut Creek		& LOan			77705

r'			<u> </u>				
17	6/17/05	330 El Divisa- dero Ave., Walnut Creek	Steve P.	Fremont Investment & Loan	7000151104	\$180,000	Ticor Title Co. 77705
18	7/5/05	2267 Shannon Lane, Walnut Creek	Melinda M-A	Long Beach Mortgage	6508478	\$656,000	Fidelity National Title
							05-244318
19	7/5/05	2267 Shannon Lane, Walnut Creek	Melinda M-A	Long Beach Mortgage	6508479	\$164,000	Fidelity National Title
				·			05-244318
20	8/10/06	1772 Geary Rd., Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	Fremont Investment & Loan	7000212506	\$512,000	Stewart Title
		CICCK		& Loan			B4000035 8
21	8/10/06	1772 Geary Rd., Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	Fremont Investment & Loan	7000212743	\$128,000	Stewart Title
		Creek		& Loan			B4000035 8
22	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth	Eloisa M.	Washing- ton Mutual Bank	0729406322	\$600,000	Stewart Title Co.
		Court, Concord		Dalik			B4000052 9
23	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth	Eloisa M.	Long Beach Mortgage	0729406421	\$150,000	Stewart Title Co.
		Court, Concord					B4000052 9

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1344(1) and (2), and 2.

#### COUNTS TWENTY-FOUR THROUGH THIRTY-ONE (18 U.S.C. §§ 1344(1) and (2) & 2 - Bank Fraud & Aiding and Abetting)

Document 1

- 15. Factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, and paragraph eleven, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 16. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

#### EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

did knowingly devise and execute a scheme and artifice to defraud the federally insured financial institutions listed below and to obtain any of the moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, and other property owned by, and under the custody and control of, the financial institutions, by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises:

Count	Close of Escrow Date	Property	Straw Buyer	FDIC Insured Financial Institution	Loan #	Loan Amount	Escrow Co. & Escrow #
24	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	WMC Mortgage a GE Bank	11030997	\$460,000	Ticor Title Co. 60451-914
25	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	WMC Mortgage a GE Bank	11030999	\$115,000	Ticor Title Co. 60451-914
26	12/2/04	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	WMC Mortgage	11075811	\$344,000	North American Title 54702- 54200980
27	12/2/04	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	WMC Mortgage	11075812	\$86,000	North American Title 54702- 54200980
28	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage a GE Bank	11181857	\$568,000	Old Republic Title 0130003294

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Title

Title

1 2 3	29	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage a GE Bank	11181858	\$142,000	
<b>4 5 6</b>	30	3/22/06	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Lucia L.	Lehman Brothers Bank FSB	00378523 16	\$110,000	
7 8 9	31	3/22/06	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Lucia L.	Lehman Brothers Bank FSB	00378519 53	\$440,000	
10					ates Code, Se			
12	COUNTS T	<u>HIRTY-TV</u>	<u>VO THROU</u>	<u>JGH FIFT</u>	<u>Y-SEVEN</u> : (1	18 U.S.C. §{	} 1343 & 2 -	·V

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d 2. Wire Fraud & Aiding and Abetting)

- 17. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, and paragraph eleven, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 18. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California, and elsewhere, the defendants,

#### EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and NELDA ASUNCION,

did knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, well knowing at the time that the pretenses, representations, and promises were false and fraudulent when made, and for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communications in interstate commerce, namely, the wire transfers identified below:

Count	Wire Date	Property	Straw Buyer/ RCFE Buyer	Financial Institution	Loan #	Loan Amount	Escrow Co. & Escrow #	Wire Amount
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2	32	4/1/03	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Мута S.	Fieldstone Mortgage	058369 3965	\$314,500	Old Republic Title	\$316,618
3			Fittsburg					375768	
<b>4</b> 5	33	4/1/03	134 Pueblo Drive,	Myra S.	Fieldstone Mortgage	058369 5965	\$55,500	Old Republic Title	\$55,196
6			Pittsburg					375768	
7	34	5/27/03	3546 Concord	Dulce P.	1 <sup>st</sup> NLC Financial	303020 83	\$412,250	Ticor Title Co.	\$410,891.10
8			Blvd., Concord					01110010 26	
10 11	35	9/10/03	330 El Divisa- dero,	Guada- lupe V.	1 <sup>st</sup> NLC Financial	303032 11 & 303032	\$700,000	Ticor Title Co.	\$695,702.63
12			Walnut Creek			12		00015245	
13	36	6/8/04	1772 Geary	Eloisa M.	The Loan Center	04- 16923	\$352,000	North Amer.	\$351,263.06
14			Road, Walnut					Title Co.	
15	,		Creek					54702- 54200309	
16 17	37	6/8/04	1772 Geary Road,	Eloisa M.	The Loan Center	04- 16924	\$88,000	North Amer. Title Co.	\$86,852.41
18			Walnut Creek					54702- 54200309	
19									
20	38	6/9/04	134 Pueblo	Eloisa M.	First NLC Financial	524040 2665	\$352,000	Ticor Title Co.	\$352,971.68
21			Drive, Pittsburg					00052792	
22	39	6/9/04	134 Pueblo	Eloisa M.	First NLC Financial	524040 2674	\$88,000	Ticor Title Co.	\$86,833.66
24			Drive, Pittsburg		,			00052792	
25	40	8/10/04	121 Warwick Ave.,	Samuel B.	The Loan Center	04- 17975	\$568,000	North American Title Co.	\$568,686.45
26 27			Walnut Creek			n.		54702- 54200588	
28	<u> </u>	1		I	l	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		

1 2 3	41	8/10/04	121 Warwick Ave., Walnut	Samuel B.	The Loan Center	04- 17976	\$142,000	North Amer. Title Co.	\$140,554.81
4			Creek					54702- 54200588	
5	42	10/5/04	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	The Loan Center	04- 19553	\$512,000	North Amer. Title Co.	\$514,485.62
7			Concord	<b>.</b>				54702- 54200756	
9	43	10/5/04	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	The Loan Center	04- 19554	\$128,000	North Amer. Title Co.	\$124,992.55
10			Concord	D.				54702- 54200756	
11	44	1/10/05	2562 Venado Camino,	Rommel V.	Country- wide Home Loans	877439 06	\$640,000	Ticor Title Co.	\$635,501.32
13			Walnut Creek					71476	
14 15 16	45	1/10/05	2562 Venado Camino, Walnut Creek	Rommel V.	Country- wide Home Loans	877439 14	\$80,000	Ticor Title Co. 71476	\$80,000
17 18 19	46	1/31/05	2562 Venado Camino, Walnut Creek	Rommel V.	Country- wide Home Loans	905571 85	\$160,000	Ticor Title Co. 74949	\$161,155
20 21	47	6/3/05	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Shawna D.	First NLC Financial	524050 3392	\$500,000	Ticor Title Co. 85592	\$504,316.66
<ul><li>22</li><li>23</li><li>24</li></ul>	48	6/3/05	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Shawna D.	First NLC Financial	524050 3394	\$145,000	Ticor Title Co. 85592	\$144,480.52
25 26 27	49	6/3/05	4124 Forest- view Ave., Concord	Steve P.	Country- wide Home Loans	101069 226	\$512,000	Ticor Title Co. 80467	\$513,462.52

1 2 3	50	6/3/05	4124 Forest- view Ave., Concord	Steve P.	Country- wide Home Loans	101069 234	\$128,000	Ticor Title Co. 80467	\$128,000
4 5 6	51	8/3/05	121 Warwick Ave., Walnut Creek	Dennis D.	Country- wide Home Loans	111292 837	\$650,000	Ticor Title Co. 21010158	\$654,784.42
7 8 9	52	8/3/05	121 Warwick Ave., Walnut Creek	Dennis D.	Country- wide Home Loans	111292 845	\$225,000	Ticor Title Co. 21010158	\$225,000
10 11 12	53	10/24/0	667 Imperial Drive, Pacifica	Alicia F.	First Magnus	792500 7026	\$640,000	Ticor Title Co. 05- 21010983	\$646,199.59
13 14	54	1/17/06	1116 Jaime Drive, Concord	Melinda M-A	Country- wide Home Loans	124430 906	\$656,000	Ticor Title Co. 21011671	\$651,365.60
15 16 17	55	1/17/06	1116 Jaime Drive, Concord	Melinda M-A	Country- wide Home Loans	124430 914	\$164,000	Ticor Title Co. 21011671	\$164,000
18 19	56	2/8/06	130 El Cerro Court, Danville	Shawna D.	Country- wide Home Loans	125899 432	\$788,000	Ticor Title Co. 06210119 81	\$789,059.58
20 21 22	57	2/8/06	130 El Cerro Court, Danville	Shawna D.	Country- wide Home Loans	125899 440	\$98,500	Ticor Title Co. 06210119 81	\$98,500
23 24		All in vio	lation of Ti	tle 18, Uni	ted States C	ode, Secti	ions 1343 aı	nd 2.	

# COUNTS FIFTY-EIGHT THROUGH SIXTY-ONE: (18 U.S. C. §§ 1343 and 2 - Wire Fraud & Aiding and Abetting)

- 19. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, and paragraph eleven are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 20. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

## EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

Filed 07/17/2008

did knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, well knowing at the time that the pretenses, representations, and promises were false and fraudulent when made, and for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communications in interstate commerce, namely, the wire transfers identified below:

Count	Wire Date	Property	Straw Buyer	Financial Institution	Loan #	Loan Amount	Escrow Co. & Escrow #	Wire Amount
58	1/18/05	1785 Thor- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Finance America	0041151 614	\$416,000	Ticor Title Co. 0007209 6	\$418,369.89
59	1/18/05	1785 Thor- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Finance America	0041152 992	\$104,000	Ticor Title Co. 0007209 6	\$102,295.96
60	1/5/07	1785 Thor- wood Drive, Concord	Jean D.G.	PMC Bancorp.	8944036	\$496,000	Old Republic Title 0111006 002	\$499,692.29
61	1/5/07	1785 Thor- wood Drive, Concord	Jean D.G.	PMC Bancorp	8944037	\$124,000	Old Republic Title 0111006 002	\$124,000

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.

#### COUNT SIXTY-TWO: (18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) - Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering)

- 21. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, paragraph eleven, and paragraphs twenty-five and twenty-seven, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 22. Beginning no later than on or about October 27, 2003, and continuing until on or about August 15, 2006, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

# EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), NELDA ASUNCION, and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

did knowingly conspire with each other, and with other persons both known and unknown to the grand jury, to commit offenses against the United States, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1956 and 1957, to wit:

- a. knowing that property involved in a financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, and which property was in fact the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, *i.e.*, bank fraud and wire fraud, defendants conducted financial transactions knowing that those transactions were designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of that specified unlawful activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i); and
- b. defendants knowingly engaged in monetary transactions, affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, said property having in fact been derived from specified unlawful activity, *i.e.*, bank fraud and wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957(a).

#### E. MANNER AND MEANS

- 23. The objectives, manner, and means of the defendants in carrying out the money laundering conspiracy included the following:
- a. Recruiting straw buyers to purchase, refinance, transfer, and sell real estate properties controlled by defendants Edith and Ronald Nelson.

- b. Purchasing properties in the names of straw buyers to conceal the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of those properties.
- c. Agreeing that the straw buyers would not have to pay the expenses associated with the property, including the mortgage payments, property taxes, and capital gains taxes.
- d. Paying the straw buyers \$5,000 or \$10,000 for each purchase and, at times, \$5,000 or \$10,000 when the properties were sold.
- e. Placing fraudulent information on the straw buyers' loan applications, including inflated gross monthly income to meet the lender's guidelines for loan approval, place of employment, assets, residential information, and purpose of the loans.
- f. Engaging in fraudulent verifications of employment and other information contained on the loan applications.
- g. Providing "show money" to at least one straw buyer to deposit into their bank accounts during the loan approval process to defraud lenders into believing that the straw buyers had more assets than they actually did.
  - h. Processing the loan packages and submitting them to financial institutions.
- i. Causing title company escrows to close with mortgage proceeds that financial institutions had funded.
- j. Causing financial institutions to wire the mortgage proceeds via the Federal Reserve Bank's Fedwire Funds Transfer System (Fedwire) to the title companies handling the escrows in California, thereby affecting interstate commerce.
- k. Providing the title companies with specific instructions as to how the mortgage proceeds should be disbursed.
- 1. Receiving from the straw sellers the wire transfer deposits of the proceeds of the illegal enterprise into bank accounts held by the straw sellers to conceal the location, ownership, and control of those funds.
- m. Causing straw buyers to open bank accounts which were then controlled by the Nelsons, including deposits, withdrawals, and transfer of monies from those bank accounts to other bank accounts controlled by the Nelsons.

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Using multiple bank accounts to transfer and withdraw funds in order to evade n. detection by law enforcement.

Filed 07/17/2008

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

COUNTS SIXTY-THREE THROUGH NINETY-EIGHT: (18 U.S.C. §§ 1957(a) & 2 - Monetary Transactions Using Criminally Derived Property & Aiding and Abetting)

- 24. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, paragraph eleven, and paragraph 23, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 25. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

#### EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and NELDA ASUNCION,

did knowingly engage in a monetary transactions listed below, affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, said property having in fact been derived from specified unlawful activity, namely, bank fraud and wire fraud, as alleged in Counts Two through Sixty-One:

Count	Close of Escrow Date	Property	Straw Buyer	Escrow Co. & Escrow #	Disbursement Amount & Reference Check #	Payee
63	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	Ticor Title Co. 22514	\$323,172.18 #91504408	World Savings Bank
64	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	Ticor Title Co. 22514	\$10,226.50 #91504397	Abacus Financial
65	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	Ticor Title Co. 22514	\$91,594.14 #91504401	Edith Nelson
66	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	Ticor Title Co.	\$40,000 #91504403	Julieta S.

	67	10/27/03	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	Ticor Title Co. 22514	\$57,280.81 #91504405	Nelda Asuncion
	68	6/9/04	1772 Geary Road, Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200309	\$110,115.24 Wire Out	Ernel A.
	69	6/9/04	1772 Geary Road, Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200309	\$14,652 #292625	Franchise Tax Board
	70	6/9/04	1772 Geary Road, Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200309	\$258,162 Wire Out	GMAC Mortgage Corp.
	71	6/9/04	1772 Geary Road, Walnut Creek	Eloisa M.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200309	\$ 44, 672 #292627	Ditech.com
	72	6/10/04	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 00052792	\$55,982.94 #91509959	Aurora Loan Services
	73	6/10/04	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 00052792	\$313,321.78 #91509965	Willshire Credit Corp.
	74	6/10/04 Wire Out on 6/11/04	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 00052792	\$57,412.88 Wire Out	Edith Nelson
	75	10/6/04	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200756	\$ 80,299.39 Wire Out	Wire to Cynthia & Redentor D.'s bank account
	76	10/6/04	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200756	\$431,656.69 #295257	Homeeq
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77	10/6/04	871 Brittany Lane, Concord	Cynthia & Redentor D.	North American Title Co. 54702- 54200756	\$111,476.77 #295258	Homeeq Servicing
78	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 86557	\$301,661.41 #0102010452	Josefina B.
79	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 86557	\$ 25, 375 #0102010454	Accumax Invest
80	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 86557	\$381,690.97 #0102010455	IndyMac Bank
81	6/6/05	1586 Placer Drive, Pittsburg	Eloisa M.	Ticor Title Co. 86557	\$ 12,825 #0102010458	Abacus Financial
82	6/6/05	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Shawna D.	Ticor Title Co. 85592	\$166,593.39 #0102030079	Edith Nelson
83	6/6/05	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Shawna D.	Ticor Title Co. 85592	\$359,004.74 #0102010421	Willshire Credit Corp.
84	6/6/05	134 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburg	Shawna D.	Ticor Title Co. 85592	\$ 10,825 #0102010429	Abacus Financial
85	6/17/05	330 El Divisadero Ave., Walnut Creek	Steve P.	Ticor Title Co.	\$208,386.25 #0102010889	Litton Loan Servicing
86	6/17/05	330 El Divisadero Ave., Walnut Creek	Steve P.	Ticor Title Co.	\$513,887.65 #0102010891	Wells Fargo Bank
87	6/17/05	330 El Divisadero Ave., Walnut Creek	Steve P.	Ticor Title Co.	\$17,100 #0102010894	Realty World Pacific West

88	6/17/05	330 El Divisadero Ave., Walnut Creek	Steve P.	Ticor Title Co.	\$147,848.83 #0102030147	Edith Nelson
89	10/25/05	667 Imperial Drive, Pacifica	Alicia F.	Ticor Title Co. 05-21010983	\$415,455.13 #0102030956	Alicia F. (Wire Out to Alicia F.'s Acct)
90	10/25/05	667 Imperial Drive, Pacifica	Alicia F.	Ticor Title Co. 05-21010983	\$17,992.19 #0102015437	Realty World Pacific West
91	10/25/05	667 Imperial Drive, Pacifica	Alicia F.	Ticor Title Co. 05-21010983	\$207,944.05 #0102030957	Wells Fargo Loan Payoff
92	2/8/06	130 El Cerro Court, Danville	Shawna D.	Ticor Title Co. 06-21011981	\$152,213.11 #0102018296	Washington Mutual Bank
93	2/8/06	130 El Cerro Court, Danville	Shawna D.	Ticor Title Co. 06-21011981	\$831,040.61 #0102031516	B., Frank and Mary Jane
94	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord	Eloisa M.	Stewart Title Co. B40000529	\$67,046.04 (Wire Out)	Countrywide Loan Loans
95	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord	Eloisa M.	Stewart Title Co. B40000529	\$376,564.89 (Wire Out)	Countrywide Loan Loans
96	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord	Eloisa M.	Stewart Title Co. B40000529	\$15,093.35 #40-22442	Ernel A.
97	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord	Eloisa M.	Stewart Title Co. B40000529	\$250,049.92 (Wire Out)	P., Marcelo & Elma
98	8/15/06	1213 St. Elizabeth Court, Concord	Eloisa M.	Stewart Title Co. B40000529	\$34,000 #40-202447	Realty World Pacific West

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1957(a) and 2.

# <u>COUNTS NINETY-NINE THROUGH ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN</u>: (18 U.S.C. §§ 1957(a) & 2 - Monetary Transactions Using Criminally Derived Property & Aiding and Abetting)

Filed 07/17/2008

- 26. The factual allegations contained in paragraphs one through eight, paragraph eleven, and paragraph twenty-three, are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 27. On or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the defendants,

#### EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS), and CRISTETA LAGAREJOS,

did knowingly engage in a monetary transactions listed below, affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, said property having in fact been derived from specified unlawful activity, namely, bank fraud and wire fraud, as alleged in Counts Two through Sixty-One:

Count	Close of Escrow Date	Property	Straw Buyer	Escrow Co. & Escrow #	Disbursement Amount & Reference Check #	Payee
99	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	Ticor Title Co.	\$ 11,070.00 #91408239	Realty World Californians
100	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	Ticor Title Co.	\$405,000.06 #91408240	Washington Mutual Bank
101	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	Ticor Title Co.	\$ 99, 516.27 #91408241	Washington Mutual Bank
102	8/17/04	2180 La Orinda Place, Concord	Lucia L.	Ticor Title Co.	\$ 54,108.78 (Wire Out)	Steve P.
103	1/19/05	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Ticor Title Co. 00072096	\$ 11,114.50 #91410916	Legacy Financing

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1 2 3	104	1/19/05	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Ticor Title Co. 00072096	\$347,461.79 (Wire Out)	Option One Mortgage Corp.
4 5 6	105	1/19/05	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Ticor Title Co. 00072096	\$ 87,314.20 (Wire Out)	Option One Mortgage Corp.
7 8 9	106	1/19/05	1785 Thorn- wood Drive, Concord	Antonio R.	Ticor Title Co. 00072096	\$ 71,859.88 (Wire Out)	Antonio R.
10 11 12 13	107	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$115,569.56  Wire to Bank of Walnut Creek #1361899 (Edith Nelson & Rosalina B.)	Rosalina B.
14 15	108	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$ 12,145 # 3000314342	The Legacy
16 17 18	109	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$347,647.92 # 3000314344	World Savings
19 20	110	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$ 98,528.13 # 3000314345	World Savings
21 22	111	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$ 37,275.95 # 3000314346	Norma L.
23 24 25	112	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$ 41,200 # 3000314347	Cris Lagarejos
26 27	113	5/2/05	2852 Stratford Drive, San Ramon	Steve P.	WMC Mortgage Corp.	\$ 57,590 # 3000314381	Holioak Properties
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All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1957(a) and 2.

COUNT ONE HUNDRED FOUTEEN: (26 U.S.C. § 7201 & 2 - Income Tax Evasion & Aiding & Abetting)

28. On or about November 3, 2003, in the Northern District of California, the defendants,

## RONALD NELSON and EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS),

who, during the calendar year 2002, were married, did willfully attempt to evade and defeat any income tax due and owing to the United States of America for the calendar year 2002, in addition to other penalties provided by law, by causing to be prepared and signing a false and fraudulent joint U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, Form 1040, which was filed with the Internal Revenue Service, wherein it was stated that their joint taxable income for said calendar year was the sum of \$ 0, and that the tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$3,532.00, whereas, the defendants then and there well knew and believed, their true taxable income and additional tax due and owing to the United States of America for said calendar year was greater than the amount reported on their joint U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

## COUNT ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THROUGH ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX: 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) & 18 U.S.C. § 2 - Harboring of Illegal Alien and Aiding & Abetting)

29. Beginning at a time unknown, but not later than in or about the dates listed below, and continuing until in or about the dates listed below, in the Northern District of California, the defendant,

## RONALD NELSON and EDITH NELSON (a/k/a EDITH HONRUBIA NELSON, a/k/a EDITH GRUTAS),

knowing and in reckless disregard of the fact that aliens identified below had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of law, did knowingly conceal, harbor, and shield the alien from detection, and attempt to conceal, harbor, and shield the alien from detection, in any place, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count	Approximate Start Date	Approximate End Date	Name of Alien
115	April 2002	February 2006	Jeannette G.
116	August 2004	June 2007	Lorenzo C.

117	October 2003	December 2004	Lee M. C.
118	April 2006	June 2007	Felicette U.
119	March 2004	March 2006	Ariel R.D.
120	March 2002	April 2004	Marife R.
121	March 2002	April 2004	Rogelio R.
122	March 2002	May 2004	Maria F.R.
123	January 2006	July 2006	Arturo B.
124	November 2002	September 2003	Susana I.
125	September 2001	November 2005	Anita M.
126	November 2002	September 2003	Maria F.L.L.

All in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

DATED: July 17, 2008

A TRUE BILL.

JOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO United States Attorney

Acting Chief, C	Okkigan Oakland Branch

(Approved as to form:

AUSA Deborah R. Douglas